

Emergency Support Function #4 – Firefighting

ESF Coordinator:

Tucson Fire Department

Support Agencies:

Planning & Development Services Dept.
Building Inspectors
Finance Department
Central Safety Services
General Services Department
Information Technology Department
Parks & Recreation Department
Tucson Police Department
Police Assist Group
Transportation Department
Tucson Water Department
Area Fire Departments
Southwest Gas
Tucson Electric Power
Pima County Office of Emergency
Management
(R.A.C.E.S.)

Primary Agency:

Tucson Fire Department

Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) #4 – Firefighting enables the detection and suppression of urban and urban interface fires resulting from, or occurring coincidentally with, an Incident of Local or Regional Significance.

Scope

Firefighting support entails managing firefighting activities and providing personnel, equipment, and supplies for emergency response or assistance operations, when such resources would be useful in urban or urban interface firefighting operations. Potential operations include:

- Performing fire suppression operations
- Providing water delivery capability
- Providing supplemental resources to jurisdictions
- Conducting damage assessment.

The Firefighting ESF team or its individual members may participate in debris management activities when appropriate and as necessary.

Policies

The Tucson Fire Department will coordinate with other regional and state organizations to support essential fire service operations.

Policies and procedures utilized during Incidents of Local or Regional Significance will support the protection of life, property and the environment. During disasters, normal policies and procedures may be modified based on circumstances.

Situation

Emergency/Disaster Conditions and Hazards

The City of Tucson will periodically experience emergency situations that may overwhelm current fire service capabilities. Equipment and personnel may be damaged or unavailable at times when they are most needed. The most current Pima County Hazard Mitigation Plan (draft from October 2005) describes situations that affect our area and may impact resource availability.

Planning Assumptions

- Urban commercial and residential fire incidents typically can be managed by local jurisdictions and will not require extensive regional support or involvement. However, management support and resources are available for those instances in which either is necessary.
- After certain disaster events, urban water systems may be inoperable or sufficiently damaged so that some conventional fire suppression techniques are severely challenged.
- The local and regional transportation infrastructure may sustain damage. Disaster response and recovery activities that require use of the transportation network may be difficult to coordinate.
- The extent of damage to transportation infrastructure after some disaster events may influence the firefighting strategy as well as the ability of wheeled-vehicle firefighting apparatus to gain access to an active fire site.
- Normal means of communications may not be available and repairs to communications networks could take days, weeks or months. In these situations, non-traditional means of communication must be established and used.
- The resources of any particular department or organization will not be under the command of an individual not associated with that department or organization.

Concept of Operations

General

During an Incident of Local or Regional Significance, it is critical that coordination between the City of Tucson Fire Department and other area fire departments be a focal point.

To enhance coordination, any Tucson Fire Department Incident Commander may request activation of the City of Tucson (or the Pima County) Emergency Operations Center. Appropriate support agencies will respond to the EOC to provide coordination of regional resources within the fire service.

City of Tucson Fire Department resources may be utilized to provide support for incidents occurring outside the City limits utilizing TFD's Regional and Statewide Mutual Aid agreements or when directed by the City Manager or Mayor.

Comprehensive Emergency Management

Preparedness

ESF #4 primary and support agencies are responsible for ensuring that the following preparedness items are fully addressed:

- Review and revise their Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)/Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) regularly
- Establish procedures for alerting their own personnel and other key employees in an Incident of Local or Regional Significance
- Update equipment and resource listings on a regular basis, and distribute them appropriately
- Revise mutual aid agreements as needed
- Train employees on specific ESF functions
- Develop interests and partnerships with businesses and fire service support agencies
- Regularly attend scheduled tabletop exercises and all other applicable training events
- Review and analyze lessons learned in emergency/disaster incidents that have occurred elsewhere, and make appropriate corrections/additions to their respective SOPs/SOGs and this ESF

Response

ESF #4 primary and support agencies are responsible for ensuring that the following response items are fully addressed:

- Establish and maintain contact with the Incident Commander and/or appropriate Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for instructions
- Determine operational capacity of streets, roads, and bridges
- Maintain ongoing information exchange with ESF #5 – Emergency Management
- Maintain complete and accurate documentation of all related costs, actions, and communications

Recovery

ESF #4 primary and support agencies are responsible for ensuring that the following recovery items are fully addressed:

- Consult with ESF #5 and ESF #14 – Long-term Community Recovery & Mitigation regarding the recovery strategy for the Fire Department and the overall City recovery efforts
- Continue to assess and track losses of equipment and personnel, develop estimates of monetary loss, and identify possible funding sources
- Assess the need for critical incident stress management for personnel

Mitigation/Prevention

ESF #4 primary and support agencies are responsible for ensuring that the following mitigation/prevention items are fully addressed:

- Conduct threat, risk and vulnerability assessments of key ESF infrastructure
 - Review and analyze lessons learned in emergency/disaster incidents that have occurred elsewhere, and make changes where applicable
 - Participate as necessary in the reconstruction of damaged or destroyed facilities and mitigate deficiencies where appropriate
 - Replace equipment, vehicles and/or personnel
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Responsibilities

Coordinating and Primary Agency: Tucson Fire Department

The Tucson Fire Department is responsible for urban and urban interface fire suppression and rescue functions and operations during an Incident of Local or Regional Significance. Additional responsibilities include:

- Coordinate the provision of fire suppression services in support of regional and state governmental entities; when applicable
- Coordinate the rescue and recovery of victims of fire incidents
- Provide trained personnel to staff ESF #4 responsibilities at the EOC, or any other temporary facility in the impacted region
- Manage the financial aspects of the ESF #4 response, including the funding of mission assignments and/or reimbursable agreements
- Work with regional fire departments, related state agencies, and applicable industry partners to assess the damage to the region's infrastructure following an Incident of Local or Regional Significance.
- Assist in analyzing the impact of the incident on regional critical infrastructure operations
- Coordinate and implement, as required, emergency-related response and recovery functions performed under fire suppression statutory authorities, including:
 - damage assessment, and
 - safety and security related actions concerning movement restrictions, quarantines, and evacuations
- Provide assistance to local, regional and state governmental entities in evacuation or movement restriction planning
- Identify resource requirements for fire suppression and rescue operations and coordinate their allocation.

Support Agencies

Agency	Functions
Planning & Development Services Department	Building Inspectors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist by conducting safety inspections on damaged facilities.
Finance Department	Central Safety Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical assistance related to worker safety and health issues
General Services Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide architectural and engineering services as necessary for fire suppression and rescue operations Provide communications assistance Provide construction assistance as required through the Facilities Management Division Provide vehicle and equipment maintenance repair services as necessary Administer fuel operations
Information Technology Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate the restoration and continued operations of the City's radio network(s), landline telephone service, data and Internet service, and cell phone and satellite phone services in support of public safety and security activities
Parks and Recreation Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide personnel, vehicles and equipment for debris management, and/or infrastructure repair/rebuilding
Tucson Police Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist with traffic control issues and fire suppression and rescue operations incidents Provide air assets (fixed wing or helicopter) for reconnaissance
	Police Assist Group (PAG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide trained volunteers to assist with traffic control issues
Transportation Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide coordination of transportation resources, roadway information and other resources related to supporting fire suppression and rescue operations Provide personnel and heavy equipment for debris management, and/or infrastructure repair/rebuilding
Tucson Water Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and coordinate the City's water supply to ensure that sufficient supplies and water pressure are available during fire suppression operations Provide personnel and heavy equipment for debris management, and/or infrastructure repair/rebuilding

Area Fire Departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in urban and urban interface fire suppression operations as needed
Southwest Gas Company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance regarding natural gas issues at fire suppression operations
Tucson Electric Power Company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance regarding electrical power issues at fire suppression operations
Pima County Office of Emergency Management (R.A.C.E.S.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide amateur radio service for the region during fire suppression operations as needed